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FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
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RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 0088
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 0056
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0635

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 001216

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KDEM](#) [IR](#) [FI](#)
SUBJECT: IRAN'S FLAWED ELECTIONS - FINNISH RESPONSE

REF: SECSTATE 192971

Classified By: AMBASSADOR WARE FOR REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D)

¶1. (SBU) PolChief delivered subject demarche to Middle East Office Eija Rotinen Dec. 8. Rotinen said that US views concerning Iran's upcoming elections are "nearly identical" to those of the Finnish EU Presidency. The electoral process in Iran is not democratic, Rotinen added, and the bodies being elected in December are not representative of the Iranian people.

¶2. (SBU) Finland maintains a small, 2-officer Embassy in Tehran, and Rotinen agreed to share with us any reporting regarding illegitimate election activities. Regarding public statements, Rotinen said there is some debate within the EU as to whether or not the Union should even dignify this level and type of election with public comments.
WARE